

Appl. No. 10/036,273
Amdt. dated September 28, 2004
Reply to final Office action of July 28, 2004


REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant received the final Office action dated July 28, 2004, in which the Examiner: (1) rejected claims 14-18 under § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen (U.S. Pat. No. 6,194,858); (2) rejected claims 1-5 and 7-11 under § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen in view of Takeda (U.S. Pat. No. 6,414,843); and (3) rejected claim 13 under § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen in view of Takeda and Nagaraj (U.S. Pat. No. 6,321,175). The Examiner also concluded that claim 6 is allowed and that claims 12 and 19 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

In this Response, Applicant has placed the claims in condition for allowance. Specifically, Applicant has canceled claims 1-5. Applicant has also added the limitations from allowable dependent claims 12 and 19 into their respective independent claims, claims 7 and 14. Accordingly, Applicant has canceled dependent claims 11, 12, 18, and 19. Dependent claims 10 and 17, which would be inconsistent with the amendments to independent claims 7 and 14, have also been canceled.

Applicant has not made any substantive amendments to the claims that would require additional searching. Applicant has generally amended the claims to include those limitations that the Examiner concluded were patentable. Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If any fees or time extensions are inadvertently omitted or if any fees have been overpaid, please appropriately charge or credit those fees to Hewlett-Packard Company Deposit Account Number 08-2025 and enter any time extension(s) necessary to prevent this case from being abandoned.

Respectfully submitted,


Jonathan M. Harris
PTO Reg. No. 44,144
CONLEY ROSE, P.C.
(713) 238-8000 (Phone)
(713) 238-8008 (Fax)
ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT

HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY
Intellectual Property Administration
Legal Dept., M/S 35
P.O. Box 272400
Fort Collins, CO 80527-2400